

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SPC-03 STR-08

TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-20 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 SAJ-01 INT-08 SCEM-02 SCI-06 PM-07

ACDA-19 DRC-01 /190 W
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R 021810Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9492

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 00046

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, GW, UK, EGEN

SUBJECT: EC REGIONAL FUND: ANGL -GERMAN BILATERALS

REF: (A) BONN 18345, (B) BONN 18270

1. FRG SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED JAN 2 THAT
THE FRG WILL CONTINUE BILATERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH
THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. FONOFF STATE SECRETARY APEL WILL
TRAVEL JAN 3 O LONDON FOR CONVERSATIONS WITH HMG
"CONCERNING ENERGY PROBLEM AND THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL
FUND." FONOFF SPOKESMAN SAID RECUPERATING FOREIGN
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MINISTER SCHEEL PRESENTLY PLANS, "IN VIEW OF THE CURRENT

STATE OF AFFAIRS," TO PARTICIPATE PERSONALLY AT THE JAN 7 EC COUNCIL MEETING IN BRUSSELS.

2. CHANCELLERY OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF JAN 2 THAT APEL WOULD BE MEETING IN LONDON WITH MINISTERS DOUGLAS-HOME AND DAVIES AS WELL AS OTHER KEY BRITISH OFFICIALS. CHANCELLERY OFFICIAL WAS VERY CAREFUL IN COMMENTING ON SUBSTANCE OF REGIONAL POLICY DISPUTE, BUT DID SAY BONN STILL CONSIDERED THE EC COMMISSION PROPOSAL, FOR A FUND OF 2.25 BILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT OVER A THREE YEAR PERIOD, TO BE TOO HIGH. SOURCE SAID FRG STILL FAVORED LIMITING FUND BENEFICIARIES TO TWO OR THREE EC MEMBER STATES, BUT ALSO HAD SOME UNDERSTANDING FOR CONCERN OF UK, ITALY AND IRELAND THAT SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT MIGHT AROUSE OPPOSITION OF FRANCE OR OTHER MEMBER STATES AND COULD JEOPARDIZE VIABILITY OF FUND. SOURCE SAID FRG PROBABLY COULD COMPROMISE ON THIS POINT. FRG REP SAID SOME KEY BUNDESTAG DEPUTIES HAVE VOICED OPPOSITION TO PROPOSALS FOR ASCENDING SIZE OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUND DURING FIRST THREE YEARS BUT SOURCE INDICATED THAT FRG ALSO MIGHT BE ABLE TO COMPROMISE ON THIS ISSUE. IN CLOSING, CHANCELLERY OFFICIAL SAID THAT BASED ON BILATERALS WITH BRITISH SINCE DEC 20 (REFTELS), HE WAS EVEN MORE CONFIDENT THAT JAN 7-8 LONG NIGHT SESSION OF EC COUNCIL WOULD PRODUCE AGREEMENT. BUT CHANCELLERY REP NOTED THAT THERE ARE LIMITS TO GERMAN READINESS TO COMPROMISE ON FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

3. IN SEPARATE CHAT WITH EMBOFF, BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICER SAID APEL VISIT TO LONDON WAS PRODUCT OF INVITATION EXTENDED DEC 29, UNDER INSTRUCTIONS, BY UK AMBASSADOR HENDERSON; SOURCE SAID THERE SO FAR HAS BEEN NO BRANDT-HEATH PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE ON TOPIC. BRIT ALSO EXPECTED COMPROMISE TO ENSUE ON REGIONAL FUND AND NO LASTING BURDENS ON COMMUNITY OR ON ANGLO-GERMAN RELATIONS. BUT BRITISH REP DOUBTED APEL/DOUGLAS-HOME LONDON MEETING COULD GO *EYOND PREPARING THE GROUND A BIT AND WAS NOT SO CONFIDENT AS GERMANS CONCERNING PROSPECTS FOR JAN 7 COUNCIL. BRITISH EMBOFF SAID BOTH SIDES MUST BE WILLING TO COMPROMISE ON FUND, BUT GERMANS CONFIDENTIAL
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WILL HAVE TO GO FURTHER THAN UK. CONTRARY TO FRG SPOKESMAN'S REFERENCE TO ENERGY POLICY (PARA 1), BRITISH REP SAID HMG HAD NO PLANS TO EXPAND JAN 3 LONDON DISCUSSION WITH APEL BEYOND REGIONAL POLICY.

4. CHANCELLERY OFFICIAL CONFIRMED THAT, DESPITE STOPPING OF CLOCK IN BRUSSELS, FRG HAS ASSUMED EC PRESIDENCY AND WILL BE IN CHAIR AT JAN 7 EC COUNCIL MEETING IN BRUSSELS AND AT JAN 7 MEETING OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE

SUBGROUP ON CSCE IN BONN.
HILLENBRAND

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